

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 26-50 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Claims 26, 36, 39, and 45 have been amended. Support for these amendments is found, by way of non-limiting example, on page 10, lines 7-36 of the specification. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 26-32, 36-38 and 50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Washizaki et al. (Published European Patent Application No. 0547327A1, hereinafter Washizaki)¹; and Claims 33-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Washizaki in view of Tuor et al. (Published UK Patent Application GB2033947A, hereinafter "Tuor").

Independent Claim 26 recites "applying multiple bands of film on one face of the substrate using a film applicator unit, comprising ... multiple reels of film ... wherein a band width of each reel and its location on axis being chosen as a function of regions of the substrates which are to be covered by each film." It is respectfully submitted that these features are neither disclosed by nor rendered obvious by Washizaki, Tuor or the combination thereof.

Washizaki describes in column 8, lines 19-23 "a film applying method in which stratified films 1B each having a length corresponding to that of an electrically insulating base plate 6 are applied to the sides of the plate by a film applying apparatus." Washizaki further describes in column 8, lines 33-39 "three-layer stratified films 1, each consisting of a light-transmissible resin film, a photosensitive resin layer and a second light-transmissible

¹ The first named inventor of EPO 0547327 A1 was erroneously stated in the Office Action as being Kamiuchikwa. Kamiuchikwa is a part of inventor Washizaki's address.

resin film, and which feed the films 1B each consisting of the light-transmissible resin film and the photosensitive resin layer exposed on one side thereof, which is to be applied to the base plate 6.” Washizaki further describes in column 8, lines 50-59 “[t]he film 1 is unwound from the supply roller 2 to a film separation roller 3 along a guide roller 32 so that the roller 3 separates the film into the first light-transmissible film 1A as a protective film, and the two-layer stratified film 1B consisting of the second light-transmissible resin film and the photosensitive resin layer exposed on one side thereof, which is to be applied to the base plate 6.” That is, in Washizaki, it is clear that a single three-layer stratified film 1 from a single supply roller 2 is applied to each face of base plate 6. Therefore, Washizaki fails to describe applying multiple bands of film on one face of the substrate using a film applicator unit comprising multiple reels wherein a band width of each reel and its location on axis being chosen as a function of regions of the substrates which are to be covered by each film as recited in independent Claim 26.

Tuor fails to correct the deficiencies of Washizaki described above because Tuor describes a single detachably adherent window cover part applied to a window of a road vehicle.

It is respectfully submitted that Claims 27-38 and 50 are patentable at least for the reasons argued above with respect to Claim 26 from which they depend. Withdrawn Claims 39-49 are dependent on independent Claim 26. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that Claims 39-49 be rejoined pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 821.04 upon allowance of independent Claim 26.

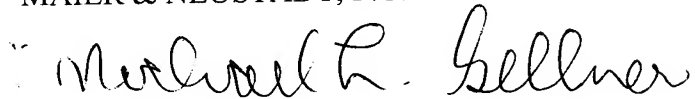
Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of Claims 26-38 and 50 be reconsidered and withdrawn, and that Claims 26-50 be found allowable.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory J. Maier", is written over a horizontal line.

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